

Idaho Commission on Aging Impact Statement American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009

TITLE VIII--DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Community Service Employment for Older Americans – H.R. 1 pg 59

For an additional amount for `Community Service Employment for Older Americans' to carry out title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965, \$120,000,000, which shall be available for obligation on the date of enactment of this Act and shall remain available through June 30, 2010: *Provided*, That funds shall be allotted within 30 days of such enactment to current grantees in proportion to their allotment in program year 2008: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading in this Act may, in accordance with section 517(c) of the Older Americans Act of 1965, be recaptured and reobligated.

Responses to questions outlined in Idaho Executive Order 2009-06, 1.

- a) The amount of federal funding ICOA anticipates receiving under this act:

We have not received guidelines from the federal agency; however, the same distribution formula currently used to allocate Title V funds is expected to be used to allocate stimulus funds to the states. Idaho Commission on Aging's allocation would be approximately \$125,000.

- b) Timeframe for receipt of funds:

Awards to grantees to be made within 30 days, but remain available for federal obligation through June 30, 2010.

- c) Whether the anticipated federal funding is allocated through an existing or new federal program:

Federal funds are expected to be allocated through the existing Title V program in proportion to their allotment in program year 2008.

- d) Current levels of state funding for the agency that is appropriated, requested or held in any account by or for the agency that would be impacted positively or negatively by the receipt of federal stimulus funding:

Current state funding provides the 10% match required for the current Title V program. Decisions on FY 2010 state funding could impact the match requirement, if the Title V stimulus package requires a match.

- e) Whether additional spending authority would be necessary to expend the federal funds:

Additional spending authority would be necessary to expend the federal funds over the two year period.

- f) Whether any additional state employees are necessary to oversee or administer the federal funds and if so how many:

If administrative costs are allowed under the stimulus package, ICOA will retain an appropriate percentage to oversee the program. Additional staff is not anticipated.

- g) Requirements under the Act associated with spending federal funding, including but not limited to state match or cost share requirements, percentage limitations and timeframes:

If the match and administrative guidelines remain the same for the stimulus funds, match for Title V stimulus program would be 10%, or approximately \$14,000. In addition, the maximum allowed for administration is 13.5%, or 15% with a waiver from AoA.

- h) When federal funding ends:

Per the Older Americans Act, one year unless extended by request of grantee, but subject to recapture and reobligation. According to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, funds will remain available until June 30, 2010.

- i) A plan detailing how the funds will be spent and how the agency will address the absence of federal funding after it ends:

Subject to final guidelines from USDOL, 65% of the stimulus funds will be used primarily for Title V enrollee wages and fringe benefits. The additional 35% will be used for ICOA oversight, Title V front-line staff, and enrollee support services including classroom training, books/supplies, transportation assistance, etc.

Title V participants will be placed in unsubsidized employment by the conclusion of the stimulus funding. Ongoing Title V services will continue with existing formula funds.

In conjunction with the Idaho Department of Labor, U. S. Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, and the Idaho State Division of Professional Technical Education, we are exploring the possibility of creating a Pharmacy Technician Training Pilot for older, low-income adults. The Pilot would be funded through a combination of Workforce Investment Act funds, economic stimulus funds, Title V funds, and WIRED funds (if a Pilot is launched within Region IV).

At the conclusion of the funding, the Pharmacy Technician Training model and curriculum will have been developed and refined. Ongoing Title V and WIA funds will use the Pilot model.

TITLE VIII--DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

ADMINISTRATION ON AGING

Aging Services Programs – H.R. 1 – pg 65

For an additional amount for 'Aging Services Programs' under subparts 1 and 2 of part C, of title III, and under title VI, of the Older Americans Act of 1965, \$100,000,000, of which \$65,000,000 shall be for Congregate Nutrition Services, \$32,000,000 shall be for Home-Delivered Nutrition Services and \$3,000,000 shall be for Nutrition Services for Native Americans.

Responses to questions outlined in Idaho Executive Order 2009-06: 1.

- a) The amount of federal funding ICOA anticipates receiving under this act:

Federal guidelines are not yet available for the stimulus package. Based on the current minimally funded formula for Idaho, the Idaho Commission on Aging could receive approximately \$325,000 for Congregate Nutrition Services and \$160,000 for Home-Delivered Nutrition Services for a total of \$485,000 in funding for nutrition programs. ICOA does not administer funds for nutrition services for Native Americans, the other component of the elder nutrition portion of the stimulus bill.

b) Timeframe for receipt of funds:

After the Administration on Aging issues guidelines for allocating funds and reporting requirements, funds are expected to become available within a short period of time.

c) Whether the anticipated federal funding is allocated through an existing or new federal program:

Funds are expected to be allocated through the existing Administration Aging Title III program. Funds may be distributed to area agencies on aging using the intra-state funding formula similar to ongoing Title III funding allocations.

d) Current levels of state funding for the agency that is appropriated, requested or held in any account by or for the agency that would be impacted positively or negatively by the receipt of federal stimulus funding:

Depending on the match requirements for the stimulus money and potential additional reductions in state/local funding sources, generating match may become problematic.

e) Whether additional spending authority would be necessary to expend the federal funds:

Additional spending authority over the grant period would be necessary to expend the federal funds.

f) Whether any additional state employees are necessary to oversee or administer the federal funds and if so how many:

Additional staff to oversee the Economic Recovery funds is not anticipated.

g) Requirements under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act associated with spending federal funding, including but not limited to state match or cost share requirements, percentage limitations and timeframes:

Information is not yet available on the match requirements for the stimulus funds. Title III Congregate Meals and Home-Delivered Meals require a 25% match for administrative costs and a 15% match for services. Using similar breakdown percentages for administration and services, if required, the anticipated match would be approximately \$97,000.

h) When federal funding ends:

Funds are expected to be available for two years and the anticipated end of the grant is September 30, 2010.

- i) A plan detailing how the funds will be spent and how the agency will address the absence of federal funding after it ends:

Details for expending and reporting on the one-time stimulus funds are not available. We anticipate the additional federal funds will be used to supplement the existing Administration on Aging Title III Congregate Meals (C1), and Home-Delivered Meals (C2) programs. If spending guidelines are flexible, consideration may be given to allow nutrition providers/senior centers to make one-time purchases of nutrition-related equipment, supplies, food items, and related nutrition program costs.

Regardless of how the funds are expended, information will be provided to recipients of stimulus funds explaining the one-time nature of the money. Contracts will include references to the one-time nature of the funds. In addition, the funds will be tracked separate from ongoing Commission on Aging nutrition programs.

Supplement to ICOA's Response to Stimulus Funding Information

Relevant to Division A, Title XIII, Subtitle C – Grants and Loans Funding, Sections 3011-3018 Incentives for the Use of Health Information Technology

- (a) The amount of federal funding ICOA anticipates receiving under this Act:
ANSWER: Unknown.
- (b) Timeframe for receipt of funds:
ANSWER: Funds under Title XIII, Subtitle C, Section 3011 are available immediately.
- (c) Whether the anticipated federal funding is allocated through an existing or new federal program:
ANSWER: New program.
- (d) Current levels of state funding for the agency that is appropriated, requested or held in any account by or for the agency that would be impacted positively or negatively by the receipt of federal stimulus funding:
ANSWER: None.
- (e) Whether additional spending authority would be necessary to expend the federal funds:
ANSWER: Yes.
- (f) Whether any additional state employees are necessary to oversee or administer the federal funds and if so, how many:
ANSWER: Two additional FTE's are anticipated. The first FTE is a coordinator to assist Idaho's approximately 100 senior centers (all independent 501 business entities) in supplying patient education concerning health technology and use of electronic health records. The senior center audience and statewide locales are appropriate for the Subtitle C purpose, due to the concentration of users of the Medicare system and/or other systems involving public and private insurers or payors. Additionally, the physical infrastructure currently exists to support State's patient education mission, in the form of buildings, equipment, computers, and internet connection at senior center sites. The second FTE will provide office support to the coordinator.
- (g) Requirements under the Act associated with spending federal funding, including but not limited to state match or cost share requirements, percentage limitations and timeframes:
ANSWER: Match requirements prior to FY 2011 will not be less than \$1 for each \$10 of federal funds; Match for FY 2012 will not be less than \$1 for each \$7 of federal funds; Match for FY 2013 and each subsequent fiscal year will not be less than \$1 for each \$3 of federal funds.
- (h) When federal funding ends:

ANSWER: Since Section 3013 refers to “each subsequent fiscal year” after FY 2013, we see an indication that federal funds could be ongoing. If the federal funds end, the agency’s involvement in the program would be discontinued with a corresponding reduction in staff. Contracts with senior centers would include clauses clearly stating the program funding may be discontinued. After the initial set-up is completed, ongoing costs to maintain the system may be less.

- (i) A plan detailing how the funds will be spent and how the agency will address the absence of federal funding after it ends.

ANSWER: If Idaho elected to seek a Section 3013 planning or implementation grant, senior centers have the potential to be activated as a critical component. Each senior center exists as an independent business entity. The centers’ usefulness could be extended beyond their original model of service, i.e., to support social interaction and nutrition programs. Initially, the plan would be for senior centers and their leadership of volunteer workers to assist in educating seniors on the health systems’ need for expanded use of electronic health information. As the e-systems are developed and refined by other state and national partners, senior centers could be a component of the State’s plan to assist patients in actually utilizing the health information technology. Statewide, our senior centers already are site locations for information dissemination relevant to Medicare Part D (prescription drug plan.) If federal funding does not continue, the senior centers could continue their health information facilitation operations without ICOA’s coordination support. The staff positions would be laid off and the agency’s involvement in the health information program would end. The agency would explore the feasibility of transitioning the senior centers to contract directly with communities’ health care providers to assist providers in meeting their patient education function under the Act.